

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application. Please cancel Claims 1-19, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Listing of the Claims:

Claims 1-19 – (canceled)

20. (new) A method of charge processing for services realized by an electronic appliance in a charge processing system, which comprises the steps of: extracting a corresponding computation formula from a means for storing computation formulas, which stores a computation formula for computing a charge for the use of said electronic appliance; and computing a charge on the basis of said computation formula extracted in the first step, and the information on usage transmitted from said electronic appliance.

21. (new) The method of charge processing according to Claim 20, wherein said electronic appliance implements a plurality of functions; and said computation formula stored in said means for storing computation formulas computes a charge for the use of a function realized by said electronic appliance.

22. (new) The method of charge processing according to Claim 20, wherein said electronic appliance is operated by a remote controller having at least one operation button; and said computation formula stored in said means for storing computation formulas computes a charge

for the use of an operation button.

23. (new) The method of charge processing according to Claim 20, wherein said electronic appliance is equipped with a storage medium for storing information; and said computation formula stored in said means for storing computation formulas computes a charge for the use of said storage medium.

24. (new) The method of charge processing according to any one of Claims 20 to 23, wherein said computation formula includes at least one parameter selected from parameters of the time period of use, the number of times of use, the overall period of use, and the location of use of said electronic appliance, function, button or disk.

25. (new) A method of charge processing for services realized by an electronic appliance in a charge processing system, which comprises: a means for managing identifiers, which manages administrator identifiers, one of which identifies an administrator of said electronic appliance; a means for storing computation formulas, which stores a computation formula for computing a charge for said electronic appliance; an identifier obtaining step for obtaining an administrator identifier of said electronic appliance managed by said means for managing identifier; a formula obtaining step for obtaining a computation formula stored by the means for storing computation formula; and a step for computing a charge, which computes a charge in respect to an administrator identified by said administrator identifier obtained in said identifier obtaining step on the basis of said computation formula obtained in said formula obtaining step, and the information on usage transmitted from said electronic appliance.

26. (new) The method of charge processing according to Claim 25, wherein said electronic appliance is a screen display device; and said computation formula computes a charge for the use of the screen display in part or in whole while using said screen display device.

27. (new) The method of charge processing according to Claim 25, wherein said electronic appliance implements a plurality of functions; said means for managing identifiers manages sub-system administrator identifiers, one of which identifies an administrator of a sub-system implementing a function of said electronic appliance; and a computation formula stored in said means for storing computation formulas computes a charge for said built-in function in respect to the administrator identified by said sub-system administrator identifier.

28. (new) The method of charge processing according to Claim 25, wherein said electronic appliance is operated by a remote controller having at least one operation button; said means for managing identifiers manages button administrator identifiers, one of which identifies an administrator of a button of said remote controller; and a computation formula stored in said means for storing computation formulas computes a charge for the installation of said button in respect to the administrator identified by said button administrator identifier.

29. (new) The method of charge processing according to any one of Claims 25 to 28, wherein said computation formula includes at least one parameter selected from parameters of the time period of use, the number of times of use, the overall period of use, and the location of use of said electronic appliance, function, button or disk.

30. (new) The method of charge processing according to Claim 20 or 25, wherein said electronic appliance is a video RAM or a network interface.

31. (new) A charge processing system for services realized by an electronic appliance, which comprises: a service provider, which provides various types of services to a user; a function manager, which manages service functions of said service provider; and a charge processor, which selects an appropriate charging method according to the respective service functions managed by said function manager, and which carries out charge processing thereby on the basis of the information on usage transmitted from said electronic appliance itself.

32. (new) The charge processing system according to Claim 31, which comprises a collector for information relating to use, which collects use status data of a user, which is information relating to the use status of said electronic appliance by a user; and a charge processor, which selects a charging method according to said use status data of a user, which is collected by said collector for information relating to use.

33. (new) The charge processing system according to Claim 31, which comprises a collector for information relating to the use of a function, which collects use status data of a function of a user, which is information relating to the use status of a user in respect to the function of said electronic appliance; and a charge processor, which selects a charging method according to said use status data of functions of a user, which is collected by said collector for information relating to the use of a function.

34. (new) The charge processing system according to Claim 31, wherein said electronic appliance is equipped with a manager for electronic appliance number data, which manages electronic appliance number data identifying the respective electronic appliance; said charge processor is equipped with a manager for administrator identification data, which manages administrator identification data identifying an administrator of said electronic appliance; wherein said charge processor carries out charge processing by way of using installation status data of the respective electronic appliance by receiving said electronic appliance number data, and said installation status data of the electronic appliance, which is information relating to the installation status of the electronic appliance; associating said electronic appliance number data with said administrator identification data; and selecting a charging method according to said administrator identification data.

35. (new) The charge processing system according to Claim 31, wherein said electronic appliance is equipped with a manager for function identification data in respect to an electronic appliance, each of which identifies the respective function of an electronic appliance; said charge processor is equipped with a manager for function administrator identification data, which manages function administrator identification data identifying the administrator of the respective function of said electronic appliance; wherein said charge processor carries out charge processing by way of using said function identification data of the electronic appliance by receiving said function identification data of the electronic appliance, and built-in function data, which is information relating to the built-in function from said electronic appliance; associating said function identification data of the electronic appliance with said function administrator

identification data; and selecting a charging method according to said function administrator identification data.

36. (new) A method of charge processing for services realized by an electronic appliance in a charge processing system, which comprises the steps of: providing various types of services to a user; managing various types of service functions of said electronic appliance; and selecting an appropriate charging method according to said service function and carrying out charge processing thereby on the basis of the information on usage transmitted from said electronic appliance itself.

37. (new) A recording medium encoded with a charge processing program for carrying out charge processing for services realized by an electronic appliance, which comprises the steps of: providing various types of services to a user; managing various types of service functions of said electronic appliance; and selecting an appropriate charging method according to said service function and carrying out charge processing thereby on the basis of the information on usage transmitted from said electronic appliance itself.

38. (new) A charge processing program for carrying out charge processing for services realized by an electronic appliance, which comprises a program causing a computer to execute the steps of: providing various types of services to a user; managing various types of service functions of said electronic appliance; and selecting an appropriate charging method according to said service function and carrying out charge processing thereby on the basis of the information on usage transmitted from said electronic appliance itself.